Secondly, scholarships for the depressed classes should be separated from scholarships for the backward classes. The students of the depressed classes could not have a fair competition with those of the backward classes. Sixty per cent of the close scholarships might be set apart for students of the depressed classes.

Thirdly, fee concessions should be extended to the students of the college classes as well.

Fourthly, exemption from payment of examination fees should be granted to all students of the depressed classes. Recommendations from departmental officers should be done away with for this purpose.

Fifthly, the amounts sanctioned for noon-day meals for the children of the depressed classes should be entrusted to their parents instead of to managers of schools. This was what was being done in Cochin and Mysore. The books and cloths of these students might also be supplied by Government as in Mysore and Cochin.

Sixthly, in the Teachers' Training College and in the Training Schools, candidates from the depressed classes sent from aided schools should be paid the full amount of the stipend as in the case of candidates from departmental schools. Half the amount of the stipend which was expected to be paid by the managers of the aided schools to these candidates was seldom paid to them.

Seventhly, managers of private schools should be required to pay to their teachers at least 50 per cent of the grant given by Government, in addition to the grant itself.

Eighthly, the minimum strength of the schools of the depressed classes might be reduced from 25 to 20.

Ninthly, two industrial schools should be opened for Samabavars, one for boys and the other for girls, as was done by the Mysore Government. South Travancore wanted these schools more than North Travancore. Carpentry, mat-making, masonry, weaving, needle-work etc. might be taught in these schools.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Yesudian, there is a very generous system of scholarships and the children belonging to the depressed classes can compete with others for all the open and close scholarships tenable in English schools. The depressed classes are also exempted from the payment of fees for examinations as an experiment for five years.

You remarked that midday meals have been sanctioned. I am afraid you are under a misapprehension. There is no such sanction by Government. A generous philanthropist made an endowment for feeding a certain number of poor children in the middle of the day.

You ask that a certain number of scholarships should be set apart for the depressed classes, I think you said 60 per cent, as distinguished from backward classes. If you ask me the better test would be that all these be reserved for poor children. I can well imagine a member of the depressed class being in good circumstances, possibly holding a good Government post who may have children, would you suggest that those children should get all the concessions which would more justly be given to the very poor of another community not classed as depressed? There are difficult questions which should be dealt with on their merits as far as possible so as to give a lift to the depressed classes, but not necessarily to lift them over the shoulders of other classes. I may tell you that Government have now under consideration a scheme and they shortly hope to come to a decision on the point, of creating a certain number of scholarships exclusively for the poor among the depressed classes. I think these are the points which you touched upon.

118. Some urgent needs of the Vilavancode taluk.

MR. K. APPAVU (*Member, Municipal Council, Kuzhithura*) said that the Pechippara dam was in its inception meant to benefit the people of Vilavancode also. But the dam was not actually serving them at all. If they were to derive any benefit from the dam, an embankment should be put up in the Paraliyar and the water should be diverted by channels to the lands in

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the Vilavancode taluk. Similarly, if the Perinchani lake was connected with the Pechippara dam, the northern and western pakuthies of the taluk could get plenty of water through the Right Bank Channel. If this was not sufficient, a dam might be put up at the foot of the Chittar and enough water could be sent by the Right Bank Channel to the northern and western pakuthies of the taluk. If the Chittar dam could not be constructed immediately, an embankment could be easily put up at Azhakal, and it would serve all the immediate needs of the locality. In addition to these, all the tanks in the taluk, more especially the major and minor tanks, should be renovated, and Irrigation Block Boards should be established at the earliest opportunity in the taluk.

The member referred next to the P. W. D. toll-gate in the Kuzhithura municipality. This toll-gate was originally instituted for recovering the expenditure on the Kuzhithura bridge. But the income that was now derived from it was more than enough to cover the cost of maintenance of the whole Main Southern Road. A portion of this huge income should be given to the municipality. In the alternative, the municipality should be allowed to open its own toll-gates.

Besides, the present toll-gate was situated on a sharp descent of the road. Many accidents were likely to occur to passengers unless it was removed from there. It could very well be removed from the town limits and the municipal council might be permitted to have their own toll-gates inside the town.

A small checking toll-gate had recently been opened near the Kuzhithura bridge. On account of the location of the toll-gate at that spot, even vehicles which stopped for rest at the municipal cart-stand near by had to pay a toll of four chackrams each. Early orders should be issued for removing the toll-gate to some other place.

The only person who was exempted from payment of tolls at the Kuzhithura toll-gate was the P. W. D. Section Officer. But the president of the Kuzhithura municipality had to cross and re-cross the toll-gate several times every day for the purpose of his visits round the town. Unless he was also exempted from payment of tolls, he had to pay at least Rs. 22 every month as toll. This was a real hardship.

The member also made the following requests:—

(1) The Martandam—Panachimudu lane should be converted into a public road.

(2) A road should be opened between Tengapattanam and Midalam.

(3) A grant-in-aid should be awarded to the Vishavaidyasala at Martandam. The municipality was not rich enough to give the grant.

(4) A Satrom should be established at Kuzhithura.

(5) The Ashtami day at Thirumala and the Bharani day at Kollencode should be declared as public holidays in the Vilavancode taluk.

(6) The Munsiff's court at Kuzhithura was now situated very near the Kuzhithura river. In the rainy season when the river flooded, it was very difficult to hold the court there. The Dewan had once promised to order the shifting of the court to another site. It could with advantage be shifted to the taluk cutcherry premises. If the court was so shifted, the present building might as of old be used as the Satrom.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Appavoo, as you did not give notice of the points upon which you wished to make your representation, I regret I am not able to give you to-day answers on the several points on which you spoke.

119. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. MAITHEENKUNJU KOCHUNNI (*Member, Nominated*) dealt with the following needs of the Shertallai taluk :—

(1) The Puthan *todu* at Thannirmukkam should be connected with the Kattachira *todu* by a canal. The opening of this canal was sanctioned five years ago with the avowed object of helping irrigation in Charamangalam, Varanam and other places and affording facilities for trade at Puthanangadi. For want of the canal, the

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